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Circular of Information



Missouri School for the Deaf

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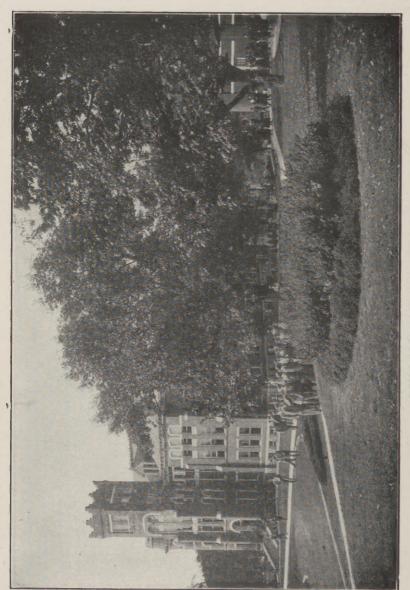








ADMINISTRATION BUILDING.



SCHOOL BUILDING-RECESS.

Circular of Information

FOR THE

Parents of Deaf Children

FROM THE

Missouri School for the Deaf

This Booklet is a Sample of the Work Done in our Printing Department

For any information not contained in this pamphlet, write to the Superintendent of the School for the Deaf, Fulton, Missouri.

Circular of Information

ADMISSION OF PUPILS

- I. All children in the State under the age of twenty-one and too deaf to be instructed in the common schools are entitled to admission in this school free of charge for board and tuition, provided that the Board may prescribe the minimum age at which child may be admitted, and no child will be admitted who is feeble-minded. afflicted with sore eyes, or with a contagious disease, or who, for any reason, is unable to attend to the ordinary duties of school
- II. Parents or guardians wishing to have a child admitted should apply to the superintendent, who will send desired information concerning the school, and certain blanks that must be filled out and returned before the child can be received.
- III. The annual session begins on the second Wednesday in September, and ends on the first Wedensday in June. Pupils should be brought at the opening of school, and remain until the close. Only in extreme cases will pupils be permitted to enter after school has begun, or leave before the end of the term.
- IV. The traveling expenses of the pupils to and from the school must be defrayed by the persons and counties sending them. Persons bringing children to school, or coming to see them during the term, should not expect board or lodging at the school. We have no room available for such purpose.
- V. Parents or guardians, if able to do so, should furnish to each pupil sent by them a sufficient quantity of suitable underclothing including for boys not less than two night shirts and for girls night gowns. All pupils are clothed in uniforms which are made at the school and for which a deposit should be made with the Steward. The name of the pupil should be written with indelible ink upon all articles of clothing, as they

are liable to be lost if not marked. Each pupil should have a trunk with the owner's name stamped plainly upon it.

The following list of clothing should be furnished each pupil and the full name of the pupil should be marked upon each article in indelible ink.

- For a Boy. 2 uniform suits, 2 uniform caps, 6 shirts or waists, 3 suits light cotton underwear, 3 suits heavy cotton underwear, 2 long night shirts, 6 pairs light cotton socks (black), 10 handkerchiefs, 4 neck-ties, 2 pairs of suspenders, 2 pairs of strong thick-soled shoes, as nearly waterproof as possible, (do not furnish tan shoes for winter.), I coarse comb, I fine comb, I tooth brush, I clothes brush, 2 pairs of overalls to protect clothes when at work or play, I strong trunk with good lock.
- For a Girl. 2 uniform dresses, 2 uniform hats, I uniform sweater, 2 flannel skirts, 2 colored skirts, 3 suits heavy cotton underwear, 3 suits light cotton underwear, 3 night gowns, 3 pairs of muslin drawers, 6 pairs light cotton stockings, 6 pairs heavy cotton stockings, 10 handkerchiefs, I pair gloves or mittens, I coarse comb, I fine comb, I tooth brush, I clothes brush, 2 pairs good warm shoes, I pair rubbers, several yards of hair ribbon, I strong trunk with good lock. Small girls should have 2 white and 6 blue checked gingham aprons, long sleeved.

Do not fail to stamp the pupil's name upon the trunk. Otherwise we may have to break the lock in order to find who the owner is.

The items mentioned above as "uniform" will be furnished by the school, but all other articles may be furnished by the parents. Parents providing coats or cloaks for their girls must provide them in dark blue or black in order that when our girls march in line they may present a better appearance. The same may be said of overcoats for boys. Ordinarily there is small use for heavy coats or overcoats because when the weather is too cold the boys and girls are not out of doors very much, and while it is all right for them to have these things, we do not consider them as absolutely necessary.

VI. If possible the parents of each pupil should deposit ten or fifteen dollars with the Steward at the opening of School. This is for clothing and incidental expenses. This, of course, is not expected of pupils sent at the expense of the county. This School should never be required to advance money for clothing, traveling expenses, dental service, etc. We usually



FRONT YARD



PUPILS IN CHAPEL

allow pupils to go to town once a week under proper supervision when they like a nickel or a dime of their own to spend. It is not safe to trust the money in their keeping so if you wish your child to have a little spending money in that way, an additional deposit may be made with the superintendent for such purpose and small amounts will be given him as may be directed and a separate account kept of it.

VII. Attention is called to the fact that this is not a reformatory, not an asylum for the defective, nor a home for the friendless, nor a hospital for the diseased. It is simply a part of the public school system of the state—a school where deaf children receive an education as a matter of right, not as a matter of charity.

DEPARTMENTS

This School has three principal departments: I—The Intellectual Department. This corresponds to the common schools of the state. Our course of study comprises the common school branches, and so far as practicable our pupils have the text books that are in general use in the state.

II—The Industrial Department.—This exists for a two-fold purpose; to keep the pupils usefully employed, thus forming habits of industry; and to provide them a possible means of livelihood after they have left school. Every pupil is required to enter the industrial department.

For the industrial training of our boys, we have a printing office, cabinet-shop, tailor-shop, shoe and harness-shop combined, blacksmith-shop, wagon-shop, bakery and barber shop. The girls are taught plain sewing, dressmaking, plain cooking and light housekeeping. In the sewing-room the smaller girls do all the patching, darning, hemming, etc., for the institution. The girls in the dressmaking-room cut out, fit, and make all the uniform dresses and capes worn by the pupils. In the cottage for small pupils, the large girls do some of the cooking and light housekeeping. In the printing-office, the boys publish a semi-monthly newspaper and a daily lesson paper and do all

the job work for the institution. The boys in the cabinet-shop do most of the repair work about the institution, and with the exception of chairs, make much of the furniture used here. In the tailor-shop all the boys' uniform suits and caps are made by the pupils. The boys in the shoe and harness shop do all the mending and make all kinds of harness. The boys in the blacksmith-shop are taught horse-shoeing and general blacksmithing and wagon-making. All the hair cutting and the shaving for the pupils is done by the boys in the barber-shop.

In assigning pupils to the various industries, the superintendent is guided by the judgment of the parents, suggesting, however, that the natural bent or inclination of the child be not ignored. Parents should take into consideration also the future circumstances and surroundings of the child. A trade that may be followed profitably in a city, may be of little benefit on a farm.

A pupil, in a moment of dissatisfaction, may ask to be transferred from one shop to another. This can not be done. It would demoralize the whole industrial department.

III.—The Domestic Department.—This department exists as a necessity; the children under our care must eat and sleep and be properly clothed. But our aim is much higher than that. We want to give boys and girls the refining influences of a well regulated, Christian home. If they come to us spoiled by over-indulgence—rude, selfish and willful—the aim of this department is to send them back to their friends, not only intelligent and self-supporting but gentle, generous, and good.

When a Pupil may be Discharged.—The number of years a pupil may remain in school depends on his progress and deportment. The superintendent may discharge a pupil at any time for failure to make sufficient progress in the school course and industrial training, or for violation of the rules of the School, or for showing, after due trial, that he is feebleminded, or unable to take ordinary care of himself—e. g. dress, wash, bathe, attend to the calls of nature, etc. The following



A FIRST YEAR CLASS.



AN ADVANCED CLASS.



TINY TOTS SEWING.



A DRESS-MAKING CLASS.



A CLASS IN PRINTING.



A TAILORING CLASS.



COTTAGE KITCHEN—A COOKING CLASS.



PART OF DAIRY HERD IN BARN

schedule indicates the progress in school a pupil must make in order to be entitled to remain the full time.

If, at the end of 3 years, a pupil remain in Grade 1, he may be discharged.

If at the end of 5 years, a pupil remain in Grade 2, he may be discharged.

If, at the end of 6 years, a pupil remain in Grade 3, he may be discharged.

If, at the end of 7 years, a pupil remain in Grade 4, he may be discharged.

If, at the end of 8 years, a pupil remain in Grade 5, he may be discharged.

If, at the end of 10 years, a pupil remain in Grade B, he may be discharged.

If the pupils be kept at home after the opening of school or taken from school before the close without the consent of the superintendent, he may not be re-admitted.

RULES GOVERNING PUPILS

- 1. The pupils must be respectful and obedient to those in authority.
- 2. They must be cleanly in their persons and neat in their dress.
- 3. They must not deface the buildings, nor damage the furniture, books, or other property of the institution.
 - 4. They must observe punctually the order of the day.
- 5. They must not absent themselves from their classes, nor from the premises of the institution without the consent of the superintendent.
- 6. They must not use tobacco or spirituous liquor of any kind.

CLOTHING

All the pupils—boys and girls—are required to appear in uniform. This rule was adopted by the Board for the following reasons: First.— It insures neat and proper clothing for all and is a source of economy to parents. Second.—It is an aid in the control and discipline of the pupils. Boys in uni-

form must be on their good behavior when "Away from home." *Third.*—It is a means of protection to the pupils when outside the grounds of the school. The uniform is recognized by everybody in the neighborhood, and horseman or driver or engineer is on the alert when approaching a deaf boy or girl.

MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION

- I. All letters concerning pupils at the school should be addressed to "The Superintendent of the School for the Deaf, Fulton, Missouri." Letters and express packages for the pupils should be addressed "In care of the School for the Deaf." The charges on all packages for the pupils should be prepaid. Express and freight receipts should be forwarded by mail to the superintendent.
- II. Pupils are expected to arrive at the school the second Wednesday in September, and they start home for the summer vacation, the first Wednesday in June.
- III. At the opening and at the close of school, teachers accompany the pupils over the main lines of railroad. This is not required by law, but is done to accommodate the parents. And to insure the safe conduct of the pupils. A small charge is assessed to each pupil for this extra but important service.
- IV. Pupils are not allowed to go home for the Christmas holidays. This rule is based on the following considerations: 1st. Only a few could go and they would fall behind their classes and lose interest in their studies. 2nd. Many of them would return sick from change and exposure. 3rd. They might bring to the school some contagious disease, such as diphtheria, scarlet fever, etc.
- V. Parents and friends bringing pupils to school or coming to visit them during the term must not expect board or lodging at the School. We have neither the room nor the right to accommodate them.
- VI. Teachers will see that pupils in the 1st and 2nd grades write home twice a month—the 1st and 3rd Mondays.



LITERARY SOCIETY ROOM



THE MAIN DINING ROOM.

Pupils in the 3rd, 4th and 5th grades are required to write the 1st Monday of each month. We leave it to the parents to regulate the correspondence of pupils advanced beyond the 5th grade. Parents should not expect teachers to write to them as their time would be taken up to the detriment of their classes. Correspond direct with the superintendent and he will answer every letter you write.

- VII. When a pupil neglects to write, the parents should not imagine all sorts of evil. There is truth in the old saying, "No news is good news." If a pupil should write "I am very sick," even that should not cause great alarm. Probably in the same letter will be found the counter statement "I am well and happy." Such expressions are used often to "fill in," or make the letter longer. Should your child become "very sick," you will be notified promptly.
- VIII. We publish a semi-monthly newspaper, called The Missouri Record. Price 50 cents per school year. The parents of pupils should subscribe for this paper. By doing so they will encourage the pupils in their work, and keep themselves informed. The paper contains a monthly report showing the class-standing of each pupil. It gives all the School or local news of interest to the pupils and to parents and friends. Many of the pupils serve as reporters to the column. Our paper keeps its feaders informed in many matters relating to the deaf not only in Missouri but in other states. In addition, it furnishes choice reading of general character.
- IX. We do all we can to encourage the reading habit among the pupils. It will contribute more than any other one means to their acquirement of language, and it will be their chief source of enjoyment in later life. Parents can help by having their county papers sent to their children.
- X. The pupils have free access to the school library which contains about five thousand volumes,—history, biography, science, fiction, fairy tales, etc. In addition to this there

are two reading rooms—one for the girls and one for the boys—supplied with newspapers and leading periodicals. Add your country paper to the list.

- XI. The superintendent should be notified promptly of a change in the post office address of the parents or guardian of a pupil. The superintendent should not have to depend on the pupil for such information. He should know also where to send a telegram, in case of serious sickness, or other emergency.
- XII. It is a rule of the School that no girl will be sent home alone in answer to a letter or telegram. We can not tell whether the letter or the telegram has been sent by the person whose name is subscribed or not. You must come or send someone for your daughter if you want her to come home before the close of school.

DUTIES OF PARENTS

- I. A deaf child's education should begin at home before he enters school and it should not be neglected during his vacation.
- II. It seems natural for parents to have greater affection for an afflicted child, but experience teaches that it is kindness to the deaf child to treat him just as his hearing brother is treated. Allow the deaf and the hearing equal privileges and require of them the same obedience and service. Special favor or over-indulgence tends to make a child selfish, willful and unloyable.
- III. The deaf child should enter school as soon as it is ready. The minimum age at which children may be received at this school is not fixed by law, but is left to the discretion of the Superintendent and the Board of Managers. For a great many years the age of eight was fixed by law as the minimum but it was discovered that there was some children at six years of age who were just as ready for admission as some others at eight. Few of those who are admitted in their "teens" do well in school. It may be hard to send a little child

from home to the care of strangers; but it is mistaken kindness to put it off beyond a certain limit. Parents should come and see for themselves that the children here are well-treated and are happy and contented

- IV. Before coming to us a child *must* be able to take ordinary care of himself—to dress, undress, wash, bathe, attend to the calls of nature, etc. He should also have proper manners at the table and elsewhere.
- V. Begin to teach a child as soon as he begins to "notice." He may seem to learn very little; but early home training counts for a great deal in our school-rooms.
- VI. If the child learned to speak before he became deaf, continue to speak to him just as you would to a hearing child. The only difference being, he must watch the movement of your lips. In this way, if his speech be preserved, and he become proficient in "lip-reading," it will be ample reward for years of patient effort.
- VII. If the child was born deaf, speak to him anyhow. It can do no harm—it may do some good. In addition—1st. Let every member of the family learn the manual alphabet. See back of cover page. 2nd. Keep ready at hand a liberal supply of slates, paper, pencils, etc. 3rd. Teach the child names of common objects and actions. Begin with a list that contains all the letters of the alphabet. The following list is suggested:

hat		quail
box		razor
dog	,	to walk
fan		to jump
vest		to cry

Write the words carefully, so that the letters will stand out distinctly. Get together the objects named, or pictures of them. First hold up the hat and point to the word hat, in like manner associate the box, the dog, the fan, the vest, the quail and the razor with their names. Now walk and point to the name of

the action—to walk—and so on with to jump and to cry. Continue this until the child associates each word with its proper object or action. He has thus learned the first principle of language, viz: "Words represent ideas." Now—using the manual alphabet—spell each of the words in the list slowly and carefully, pointing to each letter as you form it with your fingers. Continue this until the child has learned the alphabet. He may now be taught the names of familiar objects in and about the house, barn, etc., and the names of every day actions; such as, to laugh, to cry, to run, to see, to eat, to make, etc. In giving the child a vocabulary, present irregular verbs thus: to run—ran, to see—saw, to eat—ate, etc. It is now time for simple sentences; such as,

John hopped
John walked
John jumped
John cried
John ran
Mary walked
Mary jumped
John pushed Mary

Mary pushed John
John ate an apple
Mary ate a plum
John made a sled
Mary made a doll
John gave a book to Mary
Mary gave a knife to John
Etc.

These are only first steps but probably no more should be included in a phamphlet of this character. In conclusion, do all you can for your child before he enters school, and give him as much of the English language as you can during the summer vacations. Always remember that English is a foreign language to him, and he must learn it as a foreigner does—by constant practice and repetition. Signs should not be used if the child can get the meaning through speech, writing or spelling.

VIII.—If your child has not been successfully vaccinated, please have it done while he is at home.

For any additional information, address:

SUPERINTENDENT STATE SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF,

Fulton, Missouri.



GIRL'S CLUB ROOM



MAIN KITCHEN.



STYLES OF UNIFORMS

